



Call for Expressions of Interest
TO SELECT CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE
PROJECT “REGIONAL TRAINING NETWORK FOR SCALING UP OF
PRO-POOR VALUE CHAIN PROGRAMMES”

Background

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (<https://www.helvetas.org/>) and Hivos (<https://www.hivos.org/>), which are not-for-profit organisations, are implementing a 4-year project, namely **Regional Training Network for scaling up of Pro-poor value chain initiatives** (hereinafter **the Project**), granted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The overall goal of the Project is that Governments and IFAD implementing partners in the Asia Pacific Region, specifically Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam are identifying, designing, successfully implementing, measuring and scaling up pro-poor value chain initiatives that increase incomes of the rural poor.

For this purpose, a network of regional and national training and service providers- to provide technical expertise and training required to support IFAD’s executing partners- will be established and strengthened.

Establishing the Regional Training Network (**RTN**) on Value Chains requires the identification of qualified regional/national training institutions (hereinafter **Centers of Excellence**) with certified trainers, adapted training curricula and strong national training partners. These Centers of Excellence will become members of the RTN.

The Project will support the Centers of Excellence with updated curricula and master training programs as well as support for network formation and management. The Centers of Excellence will be able to provide technical expertise and training required to support IFAD’s executing partners in developing and scaling up value chain initiatives as well as utilise their new expertise and network membership to sell training services to other clients. They will also actively participate in knowledge sharing of the network and act as a part of a Board to manage RTN. They will also be part of research team with other national academia to undertake policy research, which can used to develop relevant policy brief and recommendations.

Details of the Call

This Call for Expressions of Interest aims to select qualified training organisations to become members of the RTN to provide technical expertise and trainings for IFAD executing partners on value chains.

The Project Coordination Unit, on behalf of IFAD, will manage this call and oversee the selection process.

Interested organizations are invited to respond to this call of interest by supplying the requested organizational information and addressing the following selection criteria:

1. Experience in providing training on value chain analysis or market-system based approaches;
2. Network of staff or associates down to local level;
3. Experience in implementation of value chain development projects and programs in addition to training on value chain analysis;
4. Membership and (preferably) demonstrated leadership roles in other networks;
5. Existing international linkages and exchange;
6. Experience in research, training or project implementation related to social inclusion.

The expected result of this Call is a shortlist of Centers of Excellence who will become members of the Regional Training Network on Value Chains.

Who can apply under this Call?

This Call is open on equal terms and without distinction of origin to any organisation legally established in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam. Public and private organisations who have experiences and expertise in provision of training and services in value chain and market system development can express their interest to the Call.

Procedure for submission of Expression of Interest

Expression of interest must be filled-in in English using the [standard application](#) form. The expression of interest should be submitted electronically to the following email address: **Helvetas.vietnam@helvetas.org**

Request for clarification can be made at the email address given above. All written communications in the frame of this Call must be in English language.

The deadline for submitting an expression of interest is **30h June 2016, 23:00 Hanoi time.**